Title: Need to enlist Anglo-Indian community as a separate category in 2001 Census.

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA (NOMINATED): Sir, the 500-year old Anglo-Indian community is a historical construct of colonialism and empire building. A linguistic as well as a religious micro-minority, the Anglo-Indian community has a distinct identity. However, during Census, the community has always been included in the larger Christian community.

After Independence and until the 1970s, the community witnessed a diaspora with its members migrating to Britain, the USA, Canada and Australia. Census data will enable Anglo-Indian MPs and MLAs to identify weaker sections of the community in need of Central and State aid and will ensure a direction and thrust to our social welfare measures and schemes. Census data will also help scholars in India and abroad who do research on the community.

I request that Census 2001 list 'Anglo-Indian' as a separate category under 'Christian'.